

A FRUIT HOLDER

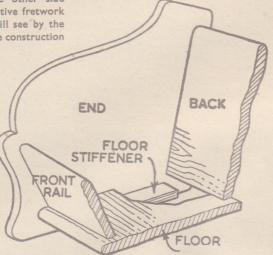
HE patterns on the other side provide for an attractive fretwork fruit holder. You will see by the small diagram here that the construction

is quite simple, and if you follow these instructions, you will have no difficulty in completing this useful article.

The first job is to trace the various parts on to the appropriate thicknesses of wood. The ends and overlays are shown full size, but the floor, front rail and back are shown condensed. In each of these three, the width is full size, but they must be extended to the measurements shown. You can now proceed to

cut out the various parts, paying particular attention to the mortises A, B and C, in the ends. Make these on the scant side if anything, to ensure a tight fit when the tenons of the front rail, floor and back are glued in position.

When all the parts have been cut out, clean them up with glasspaper and chamfer the various edges, as indicated by the sections. The parts are now ready for assembly, and this should be completed in stages. First, glue the overlays on the ends. These need not be pinned in position, but you must place suitable weights on them until the glue is thoroughly dry. Make sure, when you glue these overlays in position, that they are glued on the outside of the ends. Next glue the floor in position, in-



serting the tenons (B) into the mortises (B) in the ends. The front rail and back are glued similarly in place. To complete the construction, all that is needed is to glue and screw the two floor stiffeners in place. One of these is shown in the diagram, and their positions are dotted on the patterns of the ends.

The finishing is largely a matter of personal choice, but we suggest that a light stain and either polish or varnish would be suitable. Alternatively you could use a high-gloss enamel, picking out the flowers and leaves in different colours. If enamel is used, give two or three thin coats, and allow to dry thoroughly; otherwise the paint will be inclined to run in the fretted portions.